

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0623

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1257

FOR EA/PRCM AND NSC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PINT CH

SUBJ: DAILY SUMMARY FOR MAY 4.

REF: STATE 108371

1. CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG DEPARTED FOR PYONGYANG ON MAY 4, HIS FIRST VISIT ABROAD. HUA WAS ACCOMPANIED BY POLITBURO MEMBER KENG PIAO, A SPECIALIST IN RELATIONSWITH FRATERNAL COMMUNIST PARTIES; POLITBURO ALTERNATE CHEN MU-HUA, CONCURRENTLY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES; AND FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA. THE PARTY IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN IN NORTH KOREA FOR 4-5 DAYS.

2. HUA KUO-FENG AND ALL ACTIVE PEKING-BASED POLITBURO MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES SAVE PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN YEH CHIEN-YING (CURRENTLY IN CANTON) MET ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 3 WITH DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE ON POLITICAL WORK OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY AND TO THE NATIONAL MEETING OF MODEL WORKERS.

3. POLITBURO MEMBER/VICE PREMIER/DEFENSE MINISTER HSU HSIANG-CHIEN MET A GROUP OF RETIRED WEST GERMAN GENERALS ON MAY 3. HSU INDICATED THAT THE PRC SAW AFGHANISTAN AS IN THE SOVIET ORBIT FOLLOWING THE COUP.

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4. CHINA'S TOP NUCLEAR SCIENTIST AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES CHIEN SAN-CHIANG MET AND GAVE A BANQUET FOR AN AMERICAN NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS' GROUP ON MAY 2.

5. BRITISH CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF SIR NEIL CAMERON DEPARTED SHANGHAI FOR HOME ON MAY 3 AFTER VISITING AN EAST CHINA SEA

FLEET UNIT AND MEETING WITH SHANGHAI MILITARY OFFICIALS.
PRC OPEN MEDIA HAVE NOT REPORTED SIR NEIL'S CASUAL TOAST
REFERENCE TO "THE ENEMY AT OUR DOORSTEP WHOSE CAPITAL IS IN MOSCOW,"
BUT THE NCNA DAILY SUMMARY OF FOREIGN PRESS (AND PRESUMABLY
THE RESTRICTED REFERENCE NEWS) HAVE PROMINENTLY FEATURED
REPORTS ON THE BRITISH ROW GENERATED BY THE REMARK.

6. NCNA REPORTED THAT A NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENTS OPENED IN PEKING ON MAY 2 "TO PLAN FOR FASTER
PROGRESS IN THE MODERNIZATION OF CHINA'S TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS."

7. PRC MEDIA ARE GIVING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO VICE PREMIER
KU MU'S TRIP TO EUROPE. A MAY 2 NCNA ITEM CONTAINS LENGTHY
QUOTES FROM TOASTS BY KU AND FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD
AT PARIS WELCOMING BANQUET.

8. THE PRC PHYSICAL CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMISSION GAVE A
BANQUET ON MAY 3 IN HONOR OF IRANIAN VICE MINISTER OF WAR
LT GEN MAHMOUD SADEGHIYAN, WHO IS IN CHINA IN CONNECTION
WITH THE PROJECTED JOINT PRC-IRAN EXPEDITION TO CLIMB
MT QOMOLUNGMA (EVEREST).
WOODCOCK

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